

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1 – 10 are indicated to be allowable.

Claims 11 – 20 are cancelled.

Claims 21 – 28 as now suggested are amended to include structural limitations to more clearly set forth the tensioning structure and better define over the references, including the Lambert reference (3,853,235). Independent claim 21 is amended to set forth wrap engaging members movably mounted on the spaced forks and selectively movable into engagement with the protective wrap, the spaced forks spreadable to move the engaging members apart to tension an area of the protective wrap between the wrap engaging members. The wrap engaging members of Lambert are not movably mounted on spaced forks as now set forth in claim 21. The gripping members 42 in Lambert simply move the containers in a linear direction and do not show or suggest spreadable forks with wrap engaging members movably mounted on the spaced forks to engage and tension a lower portion of bale wrap as set forth in proposed claim 21.

Therefore, proposed claim 21 and claims 22 – 28 therefrom, are believed to be clearly allowable over the cited references, including the Lambert reference. No new issues are believed to be presented (see, for example, claims 2, 22, 23 and 28), and this amendment is believed to clearly put the case in condition for allowance.

Therefore, entry of this amendment and favorable action is respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner believes that the present amendment does not put the application in condition for allowance, applicants' attorney requests the Examiner call him at the number listed below.

In conclusion, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance, and such allowance is respectfully requested.

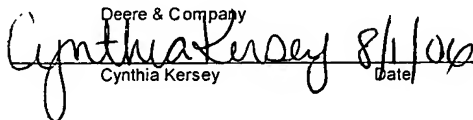
Any fees or charges due as a result of filing of the present paper may be charged against Deposit Account 04-0525. Two duplicates of this page are enclosed.

Respectfully,

  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

Duane A. Coordes  
Reg. No. 27,531  
Patent Department  
Deere & Company  
One John Deere Place  
Moline, IL 61265  
Telephone No. (309) 765-4383

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
on: 01 August 2006  
Date

Deere & Company  
  
Cynthia Kersey Date